



General Assembly

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Committee on Conferences Substantive session of 2012

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Felix **Datuwei** (Nigeria)

I. Organizational matters

A. Membership

1. In its resolution 43/222 B, the General Assembly decided to retain the Committee on Conferences as a permanent subsidiary organ. Pursuant to the provisions of that resolution, in 2012 the Committee was composed of the following Member States: Austria, China, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Japan, Libya, Namibia, Nigeria, Panama, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).¹

B. Officers

2. At its organizational session for 2012 (517th meeting), held on 25 April 2012, the Committee elected the following officers to serve in 2012:

Chair:

Carolina **Popovici** (Republic of Moldova)

*Vice-Chairs:*²

Maria Angela **Holzmann** (Austria)

Carmen **Ávila** (Panama)

Rapporteur:

Felix **Datuwei** (Nigeria)

¹ One seat from the Latin American and Caribbean States and one seat from the Asia-Pacific States have remained vacant since the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly (see A/67/107 and A/AC.172/2012/INF/1).

² There was no nominee from the Asia-Pacific States.



3. At the same meeting of its organizational session, the Committee agreed in principle that the Chair would undertake informal consultations with a view to determining the composition of its Bureau for 2013 and that the outgoing Chair and members of the Bureau would continue in their capacity until the 2013 Bureau was elected.

C. Organization of work

4. At the same meeting session, the Committee decided to adopt at its substantive session the dates for its organizational and substantive sessions for the following year so that the dates would be included in the calendar of conferences and meetings. The Committee also agreed to follow the guidelines adopted in 1994 and 1995 with regard to its consideration of intersessional departures from the approved calendar of conferences and meetings and to meet, as required, to review proposals affecting the schedule of conferences and meetings during sessions of the General Assembly.

5. Also, at the same meeting, the Committee reviewed the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015, programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, as contained in document A/67/6 (Prog. 1). The recommendations of the Committee were transmitted in a letter dated 1 May 2012 from the Chair of the Committee on Conferences to the Chair of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and were included in a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015: review of part two: biennial programme plan by sectoral, functional and regional bodies (see E/AC.51/2012/CRP.1, annexes I and II).

6. At the 517th meeting, on 25 April, the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management, Shaaban M. Shaaban addressed the Committee and introduced the proposed strategic framework (A/67/6 (Prog. 1)). Statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, the United States, Austria, France, Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria.

7. The Committee convened its substantive session from 4 to 10 September 2012 (518th to _____ meetings). At the opening of the substantive session on 4 September, the Acting Head of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, Jean-Jacques Graisse introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences (A/67/127). Statements were made by the representatives of _____.

D. Programme of work

8. At its organizational session for 2011 (510th meeting), held on 20 April 2011, the Committee requested that the Secretariat submit the provisional agenda for 2012 to the Committee at its organizational session for 2012. At its organizational session for 2012, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda (A/AC.172/2012/L.1) and requested that the Secretariat submit a provisional agenda for 2013 to the Committee at its organizational session for 2013. The Committee also decided to include in its programme of work for the year, prior to the Committee's substantive session or upon request, informal briefings by the Secretariat on issues related to conference management that are of interest to Member States.

E. Participation of observers

9. Two Member States were represented as observers at the organizational session: Egypt and Senegal. The following four Member States and an intergovernmental organization were represented as observers at the substantive session of the Committee: Cuba, Egypt, Peru, Senegal and the International Organization of La Francophonie.